

Application No. 09/609,961

Inventor: Miller

Request for Continued Examination and Response to Final Office Action dated May 28, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for controlling an electric device, comprising:

a plurality of finger-shaped sleeves that are coupled together and are each worn on a different finger of a hand, wherein at least one of the plurality of sleeves has at least one ~~control~~ contact-sensitive element for ~~operating~~ controlling an electronic device using finger movements; and a microphone ~~coupled to~~ embedded in one of the plurality of sleeves, wherein the electronic device is operated using a combination of finger movements and voice commands.
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of sleeves form a glove and further comprising a microphone coupled to one of the plurality of sleeves, wherein the electronic device is operated using a combination of finger movements and voice commands.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~control~~ contact-sensitive element is a touch-sensitive touchpad.
4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~control~~ contact-sensitive element is a button.

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5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus operates the electronic device remotely.
6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus is coupled to the electronic device by a cable.
7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the electronic device is a computer.
8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~control~~ contact-sensitive element is a motion-sensitive pointer for moving a cursor on a display device.
9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the electronic device is used to operate a television.
10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the electronic device is used to operate a household appliance.
11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the electronic device is used to operate a computer.

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12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus includes communication means and a speaker enabling the apparatus to be used as a telephone.
13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus includes a receiver for receiving electronic signals from the electronic device.
14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus includes a transmitter for transmitting signals to the electronic device.
15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the apparatus operates at an infrared frequency.
16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the apparatus operates at a radio frequency.
17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus includes a text-mode touchpad for instructing a voice recognition system to interpret spoken words literally as text to be inserted into a software application displayed on a display device by speaking into the microphone.
18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus includes a command-mode touchpad for instructing a voice recognition system to

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interpret spoken words as operating commands for the electronic device or a software application by speaking into the microphone.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus includes a cursor activator touchpad, whereby touching the cursor activator touchpad activates control of a cursor on a display device.
20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the apparatus includes a motion-sensitive pointer used to move the cursor on the display device.
21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus includes a scroll touchpad for scrolling up and down pages displayed on a display device.
22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus can be used in conjunction with headgear to operate the electronic device.
23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the apparatus can be used in conjunction with a stylus and a touch-sensitive touch screen to operate the electronic device.

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24. (Currently Amended) A method for remotely controlling a computer, comprising the step of:

using an apparatus having a plurality of finger-shaped sleeves that are coupled together and are each worn on different fingers of a hand, the apparatus having a microphone coupled to one of the plurality of sleeves, and the plurality of sleeves each having at least one ~~control~~ contact-sensitive element for remotely operating an electronic device using a combination of finger movements and voice commands.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 24, wherein the apparatus transmits and receives signals at infrared frequencies.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 24, wherein the apparatus transmits and receives signals at radio frequencies.

27. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for operating a computer, comprising:
at least one finger shaped sleeve to be worn on a finger of a hand for remotely operating a computer using a combination of voice commands and finger movements, the sleeve including a microphone into which a user speaks voice commands and at least one ~~control~~ contact-sensitive element for selectively switching between a text-mode of operation and a command-mode of operation.

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28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the user operates the computer in the command-mode to issue spoken commands to the computer by speaking into the microphone.
29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the user operates the computer in the text-mode to insert spoken text into an application displayed on a display device by speaking into the microphone.
30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the user uses the at least one ~~control~~ contact-sensitive element to activate control of a cursor on a display device.
31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 30, wherein the user uses the at least one ~~control~~ contact-sensitive element to move the activated cursor.
32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the apparatus eliminates the need to use a keyboard to operate the computer.
33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the apparatus enables a user to operate the computer from a reclining position.
34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the apparatus enables a user to operate the computer from a seated position.

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35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the apparatus enables a user to operate the computer from a standing position.
36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the apparatus can be used in conjunction with headgear to operate the computer.
37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the apparatus can be used in conjunction with a stylus and a touch-sensitive touch screen to operate the computer.
38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the apparatus is ergonomically designed to facilitate remote operation of the computer.